

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/029,801

Examiner

Stephan F. Willett

Applicant(s)

AWAJI, TETSUHIKO

Art Unit

2142

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/29/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 15,23,26,29,32,35,36 and 40-46.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

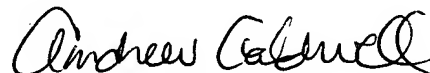
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_



ANDREW CALDWELL  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Examiner's Amendment***

1. Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephonic interview with Mr. Mark Henry on March 24, 2006.

2. 1-14. (cancelled)

15. (previously presented) A computer-readable recording medium storing a computer readable program to be executed by a computer for monitoring a processing status of a user-requested job of a rendering calculation processing, wherein the program comprises:

storing information on the rendering calculation processing of a rendering file that is performed with varying a plurality of parameters, the information including influencing characteristics that each parameter gives influence to the job on a processing transition of a processing example that is desirable for the user;

obtaining influencing characteristics that each parameter gives influence to the job on a processing transition of a current rendering processing;

comparing the thus obtained influencing characteristics on the processing transition with the influence characteristics on the processing transition of the processing example for each parameter;

deciding whether the job is a processing suitable for the user during the execution of the job processing based on a predetermined rule; and

notifying to the user that the job is not a suitable processing, when the job is decided not to be a processing suitable for the user;

wherein when the job has been decided as not suitable, a difference in the influencing characteristics of each parameter between the current rendering processing and the processing example is determined, and a parameter set with a greatest difference in value of the influencing characteristics is specified as a candidate parameter for correcting a set value,

wherein the influencing characteristics include an average processing time for processing a predetermined number of frames for each parameter,

wherein the influencing characteristics include whether there is an increase or a decrease in the processing time of each frame with respect to a processing time of an immediately preceding frame, for each parameter, and

wherein the user specifies the processing example that is desirable for the user, from among jobs that have been executed in the past.

16-22. (cancelled)

23. (previously presented) The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 15, wherein at the time of comparing the job with the processing example that is desirable for the user, a reference case is prepared based on a plurality of the previously stored cases, and the job to be decided is compared with this reference case.

24-25. (cancelled)

26. (previously presented) The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 15, wherein when the monitoring unit has specified the candidate parameter, the notification unit notifies the candidate parameter to the user.

27-28. (cancelled)

29. (previously presented) A rendering calculation processing status monitoring apparatus for monitoring a processing status of a user-requested job of a rendering calculation processing for processing a plurality of frames, the apparatus comprising:

a storing unit which stores information on the rendering calculation processing of a rendering file that is performed with varying a plurality of parameters, the information including influence characteristics that each parameter gives to the job on a processing transition of a processing example that is desirable for the user;

a monitoring unit which obtains influencing characteristics that each parameter gives influence to the job on a processing transition of a current rendering processing and compares the thus obtained influencing characteristics on the processing transition with the influence characteristics on the processing transition of the processing example for each parameter to determine whether the job is a processing suitable for the user during the execution of the job processing based on a predetermined rule stored in the storing unit; and

a notification unit which notifies to the user that the job is a processing that is not suitable

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for a user, when the monitoring unit has made this decision,

wherein when the job has been decided as not desirable, the monitoring unit determines a difference in the influencing characteristics of each parameter between the current rendering processing and the processing example, and specifies a parameter set with a greatest difference in value of the influencing characteristics as a candidate parameter for correcting a set value,

wherein the influencing characteristics include an average processing time for processing a predetermined number of frames for each parameter,

wherein the influencing characteristics include whether there is an increase or a decrease in the processing time of each frame with respect to a processing time of an immediately preceding frame, for each parameter, and

wherein the user specifies the processing example that is desirable for the user, from among jobs that have been executed in the past.

30-31. (cancelled)

32. (previously presented) The rendering calculation processing status monitoring apparatus according to claim 29, wherein when the monitoring unit has specified the candidate parameter, the notification unit notifies the candidate parameter to the user.

33.-34. (cancelled)

35. (previously presented) The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 15, wherein the influence characteristic are ratios of absolute values of differences between a current value and an average value to variance.

36. (previously presented) A method of monitoring a rendering calculation process performed with respect to a job, comprising:

acquiring first characteristics relating to the rendering calculation process being carried out;

determining whether the first characteristics match with second characteristics;

outputting a notification, when it is determined at the determining that the first characteristics do not match with the second characteristics;

accumulating a plurality of first characteristics of previously performed rendering calculation processes on other jobs; and

setting the second characteristics based on the first characteristics accumulated at the accumulating, said setting including a user selecting first characteristics from among the plurality of first characteristics as the second characteristics,

wherein the job includes a plurality of frames, the rendering calculation process is performed frame by frame, and each of the first characteristics and the second characteristics includes at least one of an average processing time required to perform the rendering calculation process on a plurality of frames and a processing time required to perform the rendering calculation process on adjacent frames.

37.- 39 (cancelled)

40. (previously presented) The method according to claim 36, wherein the outputting includes sending an electronic message that indicates that the first characteristics do not match with the second characteristics to a registered address.

41. (previously presented) The method according to claim 36, wherein the rendering calculation process is performed based on at least one variable parameter, and the method further comprising:

identifying a cause parameter, when it is determined at the determining that the first characteristics do not match with the second characteristics, which is a parameter that is a cause for not matching of the first characteristics with the second characteristics; and

outputting the cause parameter.

42. (previously presented) The method according to claim 41, wherein the outputting includes sending an electronic message that indicates that the cause parameter is a cause for not matching of the first characteristics with the second characteristics to a registered address.

43. (previously presented) The method according to claim 41, wherein the job includes plurality of frames, the rendering calculation process is performed frame by frame, each of the first characteristics and the second characteristics relate to a rendering calculation process corresponding to each frame for each parameter, and the identifying includes

monitoring the first characteristics relating to the rendering calculation process corresponding to each frame for each parameter; and

selecting a parameter that causes the first characteristics to not change in a predetermined manner based on a result of the monitoring; and

outputting the parameter selected at the selecting as the cause parameter.

44. (previously presented) The method according to claim 43, wherein the outputting includes sending an electronic message that indicates that the cause parameter is a cause for not matching of the first characteristics with the second characteristics to a registered address.

45. (previously presented) The method according to claim 40, further comprising:  
calculating a value of the cause parameter that will cause the first characteristics to change in a predetermined manner; and  
outputting the value.

46. (previously presented) The method according to claim 45, wherein the outputting includes sending an electronic message to a registered address that indicates that the first characteristics will match with the second characteristics if the cause parameter is set to the value.

3. 47. (cancelled)

*Allowable Subject Matter*

1. Claims 15, 23, 26, 29, 32, 35, 36 and 40-46 are allowed.
1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: independent claim(s) 15, 29, and 36 teaches a rendering calculation processing that stores influencing characteristics of an example and a current job processing, compares influencing characteristic parameters of the two processings, deciding whether the job processing is suitable based on a rule, notifying a user if the job processing is not suitable or the characteristics do not match and determining a parameter set with the greatest difference in value such that influencing characteristics include an average processing time based on the preceding frame for each parameter, whether there is a change in processing time with respect to a preceding frame, and the user specifies the example from past jobs processed, or such that influencing characteristics include accumulating characteristics from other jobs, the user selecting the processing characteristics, and for each characteristic an average processing time based on a plurality of frames and on adjacent frames.
2. The closest prior art of record, Deering, does not teach including characteristics such as an average processing time based on a proceeding frame or on adjacent frames. Therefore, independent claims 15, 29, and 36 are allowable over the prior art.
3. Claims 23, 26, 32, 35 and 40-46 are allowed by the same rational as well as the further limitations added by these dependent claims.
4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue



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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

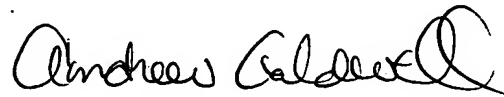
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**Conclusion**

1. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephan Willett whose telephone number is (571)272-3890. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.
2. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell, can be reached on (571)272-3868. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)273-8300.
1. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571)272-2100.

sfw

March 29, 2006



**ANDREW CALDWELL  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**